



Hampshire County Council

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

OF THE

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

H. LESLIE CRONK, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR

1951

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H A M P S H I R E C O U N T Y C O U N C I L

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT of the COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER for the year 1951

P R E F A C E

The number of young children in this County continue to increase both by birth and immigration. Attention was called to this last year; there has been a further increase according to the Registrar General's estimate, of over 2,000. Advice to their mothers on the upbringing of these children by a staff of health visitors generally below an establishment fixed some years ago, has been difficult to arrange and calls for considerable discrimination as to the payment of home visits. It is essential that the services of an experienced health visitor should be offered to all who may be in need of them but the frequency of home visits has to be very carefully considered. One method of economy in time has been the establishment of more Child Welfare Centres whose growth in numbers was mentioned in my last report. The number was further increased from 144 to 151 and a total of 20,800 made use of them during the year or 38 per cent. of the estimated number of children under five years of age.

The Maternal Mortality Rate, as I suggested last year might occur, has slightly increased, but as pointed out in the text, appears slightly higher than it would have been if late results of long past pregnancies had not been included.

The number of women admitted to institutions for their confinements increased once again and the proportion of admissions to total registered births amounted to 57.1 per cent. as against 52.1 per cent. in 1950. This trend has been creating considerable difficulties in the arrangements for domiciliary midwifery and general nursing. The policy of employing whole-time midwives in the more urban areas has had to be reconsidered, and on the 31st December, 1951, there were 30 whole-time midwives, 32 general nurses and 113 nurse midwives as against 35 midwives in 1949, 31 general nurses and 115 nurse midwives.

The year 1951 started with an increase in the incidence of influenza which was luckily milder in character than in some parts of England. Nevertheless it caused an increased number of deaths among older and more debilitated persons. Notifications of pneumonia increased by one third in 1951. Measles also had its usual increase in incidence which occurs every other year. I have no doubt that these influenced the increased number of infant deaths from respiratory diseases and gastroenteritis which caused the

infant mortality rate to rise from its record figure of 23.5 to 25.6 per thousand births. Poliomyelitis was less in evidence and no cases of diphtheria were notified, but notifications of paratyphoid fever were unusually numerous owing to a scattered outbreak of a mild type. The notifications of dysentery are always unreliable owing to the mild nature of the disease caused by the prevailing organism (Sh. Sonnei).

The outlook for the future with regard to tuberculosis has become brighter, the infection from milk is much less and the detection of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis improving. Until all sources of infection are discovered at an early stage, there will continue to be an increase in notifications as there are numbers of persons in the community who are infectious without having any suspicion of being so. The waiting list for cases in need of treatment in Sanatoria is reduced and the death rate from pulmonary tuberculosis down by nearly a third. The response of the public to the offer of examination by the Mass Miniature Radiography Units which pay visits in the County from Bournemouth, Portsmouth, Southampton and Worcester Park, Surrey, has been encouraging but still more use might be made of these facilities. As mentioned in this report a sustained effort is being made to establish Care and After-Care Committees for those afflicted with tuberculosis. In many ways these Committees can ameliorate the difficulties arising from this disease and render help in assisting cure.

During 1951 the ambulance arrangements were modified so that greater co-ordination of the service through four main stations could be achieved. The full implementation of this scheme will take a little time since building work is involved.

Finally I would draw attention to the Council's efforts to reduce the handicaps resulting from serious mental incapacity. By its Occupation Centres the majority of children capable of benefiting from care and social adaptation are given useful training rendering them happier and relieving what is sometimes an almost intolerable home situation.

STAFF

The staffing position on the 31st December, 1951, was as set out in my Report as School Medical Officer, with the addition of the following Chest Physicians, who hold joint appointments under the Regional Hospital Board and the County Council :-

Joan Butterworth, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
 H.S. Fraser, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
 D.C. Lillie, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
 B.L. Lloyd, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
 D. MacCallum, M.B., Ch.B.,
 M.E. Moore, M.A., M.D., B.Chir.
 J. Stuart Robertson, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
 J.P. Sharp, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

and :-

County Nursing Superintendent	- Miss G.M. Cooper
Deputy Nursing Superintendent	- Miss F. Engledow
County Ambulance Officer	- Mr. E.T. Mallinson
County Organiser, Home Help Service	- Miss L.M. Hamilton

The establishment for Health Visitors who also act as school nurses, with the exception of three who are solely engaged on work in connection with Tuberculosis, is 68 who give 82 per cent. of their time towards the services given in this Report and thus are equivalent to 55.8 whole-time Health Visitors.

VITAL STATISTICS

Extracts from Vital Statistics

	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1000 pop.	England and Wales
Live Births: Legitimate	5297	4939	10236	15.7)	15.5
Illegitimate	304	243	547	0.84)	
Stillbirths: Legitimate	110	101	211	0.32)	0.36
Illegitimate	7	8	15	0.02)	
Deaths	4242	4050	8292	12.7	12.5

Maternal Mortality

	Number	Rate per 1000 Total Births	Provisional rate for England and Wales
Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	12	1.1	0.79

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age

	Number	Administrative County	England and Wales
All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	276	25.6	29.6
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Births	268	26.2	-
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Births	8	14.6	-

The population of the County as estimated by the Registrar-General was, in mid 1951, 651,400 - Urban Districts 366,730, Rural Districts 284,670. This number includes non-civilians.

The Infant Mortality rate is higher than in 1950 but otherwise is as low as it has ever been. The increase was due to a larger number of deaths from the respiratory group of diseases, influenza, and gastroenteritis, possibly connected with the outbreak of influenza which affected this County in the early months of 1951. It is interesting to note that the illegitimate rate was lower than the legitimate.

The Stillbirth rate went up from 16.9 per 1,000 total births to 20.5.

A comment on the Maternal Mortality Rate is made later.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Health Education activities have continued as part of the general duties of the medical, dental, nursing, specialist and senior administrative staff.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

The number of babies dying under the age of one month in 1951 as reported by the Registrars of Births and Deaths was 96. These can be sub-divided in the following way :-

Dying before 24 hours	38
Dying from one day to two weeks	48
Dying from two weeks to one month	10

The causes of death as certified vary according to the age at death in the following manner :-

Cause	Age at Death			Total
	Under 24 hours	1 day to 2 weeks	2 weeks to 1 month	
Prematurity	20	13	2	35
Congenital Deformities ...	3	1	-	4
Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	1	10	-	11
Inanition, marasmus, etc....	1	-	-	1
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia	-	4	4	8
Erythroblastosis, Icterus ..	-	3	-	3
Atelectasis	8	8	2	18
Asphyxia	2	2	-	4
Congenital Heart Disease ...	-	3	1	4
Other Causes	3	4	1	8
Total ...	38	48	10	96

MATERNAL MORTALITY

According to information supplied by the Registrar General, the 12 maternal deaths attributable to this County were caused as follows :-

Toxaemia	6	Pulmonary embolism	2
Septicaemia following abortion	2	Concealed accidental haemorrhage	2

In one of the cases of concealed accidental haemorrhage, toxaemia was suspected as a major factor. In both cases where death followed abortion, an inquest was held and a decision reached that the abortion had not been procured.

In one case whose death was stated on the death certificate to be attributed to chronic nephritis arising from toxaemia due to pregnancy, the relevant pregnancy occurred 26 years ago. In another case the toxaemia originated from a pregnancy at least three years ago. If these two cases were excluded the number of maternal deaths would be reduced to 10 and the maternal mortality to 0.91.

The ages at death of the above mentioned women were as follows :-

Under 20 ...	1	30 to 39 ...	7
20 to 29 ...	3	Over 40 ...	1

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

I. CARE OF YOUNG CHILDREN

Feeding

No special investigation into breast feeding was carried out during 1951. The uptake of Government Welfare Foods showed a slight improvement.

Hygiene

(a) Mothercraft Teaching

Mothercraft demonstrations and lectures were given during 1951 to groups of 20 girls of school leaving age up to the end of June. Since then, owing to illness and shortage of staff, it has not been possible to continue. Girls from 25 schools attended during 1951 and the number of sessions involved was 69.

(b) Home Visiting

In 1951 notifications were received of 10,233 (10360) live births. First visits were paid by Health Visitors to 10865 (10949) children under the age of twelve months, and a total of 76,243 (80,000) visits to children between the ages of 1 to 5 years. A total of 11,415 visits were paid to other cases. The figures in brackets relate to the year 1950.

(c) Child Welfare Centres

During the year new Centres were opened at Calshot, East Meon, Hill Park (Fareham), Froxfield, Hurn, and Sholing East. The total number of Centres open was 151. The number of children under one year of age on the books of the Centres at the end of the year increased from 6,055 to 6,728. During the year a total of 20,800 children attended, nearly 2,000 more than in 1949.

Day Nursery Provision

During the year a review was undertaken of the priority cases attending the Day Nurseries, and as a result it was found that the number of such cases did not justify the expense of continuing the Nurseries at Andover New Street, Basingstoke Sarum Hill, and Petersfield. The New Street Nursery was closed on the 15th September and the Sarum Hill and Petersfield Nurseries on the 31st August. The remaining 12 Day Nurseries, providing 486 places, have been continued.

Children are admitted to the Nurseries in the following order of preference :-

1. Children whose mothers are obliged to work as sole or main supporter of the family, i.e. unmarried mothers and widows, or cases where the husband is unable to follow full-time employment on account of ill-health.
2. Children whose mothers are ill or are unable, for some special reason, to care for them themselves.
3. Cases of overcrowded or unsuitable home conditions, where it is necessary in the interests of the child on health grounds.

If any children are admitted who do not come within the above groups, it is on the understanding that the child will have to be withdrawn if the place is required by another child with a definite reason for admission.

Nurseries and Child-Minders Regulation Act, 1948.

At the end of the year there were seven persons registered under the above Act conducting nurseries in their own homes.

Nine buildings were also registered under the above Act.

Illegitimate Babies

Notifications were received of 369 illegitimate children born in the County during the year, and of these, at the end of the year 123 were still with their mothers, 29 with foster mothers, 74 had been placed with adopters or had gone to a Registered Adoption Society, 7 were living apart from their mothers other than with relatives, 106 had left the County, 4 had been lost trace of, and 9 had died; 17 had become legalised by the marriage of their mothers.

The agreement whereby the County Council makes per capita grants to the Church of England Diocesan Moral Welfare Councils, to supplement the assessed maintenance cost per case and the amount which the girls themselves are able to pay from their National Health Insurance benefit and any other help their families are able to give, continued during the year.

Of 24 cases where unmarried mothers were confined in Hostels between July 1950 and March 1951, and where the County Council gave financial assistance to a total of £590. 8s. 7d., 13 mothers returned to their home either to help in the home or to go to daily work. Five girls took up living in domestic posts with their babies, one is in training as a mental nurse, another is a nursing orderly at a Sanatorium, and 4 of the girls married.

Of the babies, 12 were adopted, 3 went to the care of foster mothers, and 1 to a grandmother. Seven of the babies are at home with their mothers and one is in a Church of England Home. The follow-up reports received from the Diocesan Moral Welfare Councils show that good results were obtained from the care and training of these girls.

During the year 1951, the Roman Catholic Home at Grayshott admitted 86 cases; the Baptist Home at Yateley took 63 cases, and St. Bartholomew's Home, Winchester, admitted 23 cases.

Premature Babies born in the County during the Year 1951

Hospitals have been asked to classify babies according to the metric system; the same classification has been applied to babies born at home. The results as regards survival is shown in the following table :-

Weight in lbs. oz. or grammes	Total number of Premature Infants born alive who					% Survived to One Month
	Died in first 24 hrs	Died on 2nd to 7th day	Died on 8th to 28th day	Surv ived 28 days	T O T A L	
2lbs.3oz. or less (1000 gms. or less)	6	10	-	-	16	Nil
Over 2lbs.3oz. up to and including 3lbs.4oz. (Over 1000 gms. up to and including 1500 gms.)	4	12	2	17	35	48.6
Over 3lbs.4oz. up to and including 4lbs.6oz. (Over 1500 gms. up to and including 2000 gms.)	5	9	-	60	74	81.1
Over 4lbs.6oz. up to and including 4lbs.15oz. (Over 2000 gms. up to and including 2250 gms.)	1	7	2	100	110	90.9
Over 4lbs.15oz. up to and including 5lbs.8oz. (Over 2250 gms. up to and including 2500 gms.)	3	8	1	257	269	95.5
Not weighed	-	1	-	-	1	
TOTALS	19	47	5	434	505	

Of the 504 babies whose weight was recorded, it is seen that 434, or 86.1%, survived to reach the age of one month, which is an improvement on previous years.

II. CARE OF MOTHERS

Medical Ante-Natal Supervision of Expectant Mothers

The tendency for this to be given by general practitioners at their own surgeries or in the patients' homes has continued, and during the year the number of patients seen on premises owned or rented by the County Council diminished from 2,704 to 2,439.

A review of the County Council Clinics was made and the matter considered by the Committee in March, 1951. Owing largely to the introduction of the National Health Service Act, the attendances at most of the Clinics had been falling off and it was desired to ascertain the most economical way of providing adequate medical ante-natal supervision under the altered circumstances.

It was decided that in the case of 5 Clinics where the women attending were the booked cases of the Medical Officer in charge, and where the Medical Officers expressed a preference to see their patients in their own surgeries, the Clinics should be suspended as from April.

In the case of 11 Clinics women attending were in the majority those booked by the doctors but the Medical Officers expressed a desire to continue to use the Clinic premises but to receive no sessional fee as Medical Officer. The County Council continue to pay the rent of hired Halls or to put the County Council Health Centres at the disposal of the doctors.

The County Council Clinic at Alton was hitherto held in the Inwood Cottage Hospital but the four Medical Officers, who were seeing their own booked cases at the Clinic, decided that it would be more convenient to see their patients at the Alton General Hospital where some of them might be admitted for confinement. The County Council is not paying any rent, nor are the doctors receiving a sessional fee.

A similar situation arose at Gosport where the Clinic had been held at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital. The present arrangement is for a rota of five doctors to see patients at The Blake Maternity Hospital. The County Council is paying a rent for this purpose.

At 8 Clinics it was found that there was a reasonable number of women attending who had not booked a doctor and in such circumstances the Clinic continues as heretofore, the Medical Officers receiving a sessional fee from the County Council. These Clinics are at Aldershot, Eastleigh, Fareham, Farnborough, Hamble, Portchester, Totton and West End.

The Clinics at Alresford and Whitehill continue with an Assistant County Medical Officer in charge.

Provision has been made for the woman who, for some reason, has not booked any doctor but whose medical examination is desired by the midwife. Where the facts are brought to my notice beforehand, and approval given, a fee of 10s.6d., per examination can be made if the examination takes place at a Clinic where the Medical Officer is not receiving a sessional fee. No request for the payment of this fee was made during the year.

Institutional Provision

2571 women were admitted to Maternity Homes as follows:-

<u>Maternity Home</u>	<u>Year 1950</u>	<u>Year 1951</u>
Allbrook, Rookwood	221	345
Barton-on-Sea, The Grove	207	334
Basingstoke, The Shrubbery	360	416
Boscombe, Aston Grays	7	5
Emsworth, Northlands	240	284
Gosport, The Blake	276	292
Fareham, Blackbrook House	202	418
Liss, The Grange	288	267
Lyndhurst, Hillrise	170	206
Reading Maternity Homes		4
	<u>1971</u>	<u>2571</u>

3,723 women were admitted to Hospital beds as follows :-

<u>Hospital</u>	<u>Year 1950</u>	<u>Year 1951</u>
Alton General Hospital		191
Aldershot, Maternity Unit	273	262
Andover W.M. Hospital	207	202
Battle Hospital... ..		5
Boscombe R.V. Hospital	153	139
Farnham County Hospital	71	69
Fordingbridge Hospital	132	141
Farnborough Maternity Unit	242	240
Frimley and Camberley Hospital	18	25
Hythe and District Hospital	63	170
Lyndhurst, Fenwick Hospital	168	187
Portsmouth, St. Mary's Hospital	539	363
Reading, Royal Berks Hospital	23	46
Romsey and District Hospital	138	161
Salisbury General Infirmary	47	65
Sandleford Hospital, Newbury	7	21
Southampton Borough Hospital	143	292
Winchester, R.H.C. Hospital	1131	1050
Winchfield Hospital	96	94
	3451	3723

3,203 applications were received for admission to maternity beds on social grounds. Of these 2,630 were recommended and accommodation was provided in all but 22 of these cases. Confinement at home was possible in these cases by use of the Home Help Service. In 573 cases investigation showed that (a) home confinement could be arranged if a bed in the hospital or maternity home was not available and (b) there was every convenience for domiciliary confinement. Beds were provided in all but 12 of these cases.

III. TREATMENT OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Dental Treatment

The arrangements for the dental treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and young children were continued during 1951 on the same lines as those after the 5th July, 1948, each County Dental Officer being responsible for the treatment of the patients in his or her own area in addition to the school children, and facilities of the School Dental Service were used for their treatment. In spite of the shortage of County Dental Officers, priority has been given to the mothers and young children who requested treatment and in areas which were without a Dental Officer, these patients were dealt with by a County Dental Officer either at an Emergency School Dental Clinic or the nearest convenient clinic in an adjoining area.

Expectant and nursing mothers were inspected and treated on the recommendation of Medical Officers of Ante-Natal Clinics, general medical practitioners, midwives and health visitors. Complete treatment to render them dentally fit was given or offered and when for varying reasons the treatment of expectant mothers could not be completed before confinement, it was continued as soon as possible afterwards. Dentures were provided for all patients in need of them and were supplied under contract with a private firm of dental technicians.

The total number of expectant and nursing mothers treated showed a sharp decrease to under half that of the previous year and the fact that free dentures could and can only be obtained through the Local Health Authority's Dental Service has not resulted in the anticipated increase in the number of applicants for treatment. The number of cases referred for treatment still remains far greater in those areas where an Assistant County Medical Officer is in charge of the Ante-Natal Clinic compared with the number referred from clinics staffed by general medical practitioners who presumably refer the majority of cases to dental practitioners for treatment under the National Health Service.

This Authority has no apparatus for X-ray examinations but such examinations were carried out for Dental Officers when necessary either at Hospitals or by private dental practitioners according to the facilities available.

Two Oral Hygienists were appointed by this Authority in July and September, 1951, to work in the Basingstoke and Winchester Clinics respectively. They were mainly engaged with the treatment of school children but completed scaling and polishing for 8 mothers who were also given individual instruction in oral hygiene.

Children under five years of age were referred to the County Dental Officers for examination by Medical Officers and Health Visitors attending Child Welfare Centres, Toddlers Clinics and Day Nurseries and by health visitors when home-visiting. In many cases the parents made direct application for treatment. The actual number of cases shows a small decrease compared with last year's attendances.

A summary of the cases dealt with is as follows:-

(a) Numbers provided with dental care:

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	113	113	119	94
Children under five years	795	774	773	747

(b) Forms of dental treatment provided :

	Expectant and Nursing Mothers		Children under five years
Extractions	...	309	733
Anaesthetics:			
Local	...	Not recorded	Not recorded
General	...	43	305
Fillings	...	80	241
Scalings or Scaling and gum treatment	...	55	30
Silver Nitrate treatment		6	839
Dressings	...	26	35
Radiographs	...	7	-
Dentures provided:			
Complete	...	7	-
Partial	...	16	-

Defects of Vision

Children under five years of age reported by Assistant County Medical Officers and Health Visitors when attendance at a Child Welfare Centre not convenient were examined at Ophthalmic Clinics attended by Dr. C.S. Stoddart, full-time Oculist on the staff of the Regional Hospital Board, and by Dr. H.L. Peregrine, engaged part-time by the Board mainly for the Aldershot Clinics.

A summary of the attendances and treatment prescribed is as follows :-

	<u>New Cases</u>	<u>Re-examinations</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Number of individual children examined	284	254	538
Total attendances...	284	303	587
Glasses ordered for first time ...	129	34	163
No re-examination necessary ...	9	52	61
Re-examination necessary - no glasses	142	48	190
Lenses changed ...	-	68	68
Present glasses suitable ...	-	88	88
Glasses to be discontinued ...	-	11	11
Other Defects - treatment ordered ...	4	2	6
Recommended for orthoptic treatment			20
Referred to Ophthalmic Surgeons for advice concerning operative treatment			8

In addition to the above, 14 children were recorded as having had ophthalmic treatment other than at the Clinics.

Operations

The 8 cases referred to Ophthalmic Departments of Hospitals were as follows :-

Nystagnus	...	1 case operation not advised
Squint	...	2 cases operation not advised
		1 case recommended for orthoptic treatment
		2 cases received operations
Tear Duct	...	1 case treatment given
Dacrocystitis	...	1 case received operation.

Two other cases, not referred from the Clinics, were reported as having in-patient operative treatment in Hospitals for squints.

Glasses

During the year, 231 pairs of glasses were prescribed and approximately 211 were provided (including arrears from 1950) through the Supplementary Ophthalmic Service.

Orthoptic Treatment

Of the 20 children recommended for orthoptic treatment, 9 were referred to Ophthalmic Departments of Hospitals and 11 to the part-time Orthoptist on the staff of the Winchester Group Hospital Management Committee for treatment at Alton and Basingstoke Orthoptic Clinics.

CLINICS											HOSPITALS								
		Total No. Attend- -ing 31st Dec. 1950	New Cases Admitted to Register during 1951	Recomm -ended Hos- pital treat- ment	Recomm -ended Clinic Super- vision only	No treat- ment required	Discharged				Total No. on Books 31st Dec. 1951	No.in Hos- pital 31st Dec. 1950	New Cases Admitted 1951	Discharged				No.in Hos- pital 31st Dec. 1951	
							Cured	Improved	Need -ing no treat- -ment	Refused treat- -ment left County or died				Cured	Improved		Station -ary		Died
															To attend Clinic	Needing no treat- -ment			
1	CONGENITAL DEFORMITIES:- Torticollis ...	26	13	-	8	5	3	5	4	1	26	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-
2	Spinal Malformations	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Dislocation of Hip, Cong. ...	14	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	16	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
4	Talipes Equino Varus, Cong. ...	90	22	6	13	3	2	1	2	4	103	7	10	-	7	-	-	1	9
5	Other ...	72	17	10	4	3	1	1	4	1	82	2	37	1	32	2	-	-	4
6	INFLAMMATORY CONDITIONS:- Osteomyelitis ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Suppurative Arthritis ...	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
8	Rheumatoid Arthritis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
9	Other ...	-	3	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	2	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	2
10	TRAUMATIC CONDITIONS:- Fracture ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Dislocation ...	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	Injury to soft tissues ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
13	Other ...	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
14	PARALYSIS:- Anterior Poliomyelitis	21	3	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	23	1	4	-	4	-	-	-	1
15	Polioencephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	Spastic Paralysis	10	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	Muscular Dystrophy ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	Obstetrical Paralysis ...	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	Other ...	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
20	ACQUIRED DEFORMITIES:- Kyphosis ...	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	Scoliosis ...	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22	Genu Valgum ...	146	92	-	76	16	17	21	10	7	183	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
23	Bowed Tibiae ...	67	9	-	8	1	1	9	-	1	65	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
24	Pes Planus ...	81	3	-	3	-	2	1	-	1	80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	Pes Cavus ...	8	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	Hallux Valgus and Ham. Toes ...	9	3	-	2	1	-	-	1	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
27	Other defects ...	38	64	3	52	9	5	10	7	5	75	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-
28	DISEASES OF BONE:- Neoplasm ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29	Dystrophies ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	Other defects ...	20	21	3	15	3	2	2	3	2	32	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-
TOTALS ...		620	262	24	193	45	75	51	35	24	737	19	65	1	54	3	1	1	24

Treatment of Ringworm of the Scalp

During 1951, 2 children under five years from one household and contacts of school children were reported with ringworm of the scalp compared with 8 children in 1950 and 4 in 1949. The boy, aged four years, was treated by X-ray Therapy and the baby of a few months was successfully treated by ointment. The fungus was not typed.

Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat

From the reports received from Hospitals, the following is a summary of cases treated during the year and included cases referred by Assistant County Medical Officers and by general medical practitioners :-

	<u>No. of cases treated</u>
Received operative treatment for:	
(a) diseases of the ear	21
(b) adenoids and chronic tonsillitis ...	353
(c) other nose and throat conditions ...	-
Received other forms of treatment...	37
Total	<u>411</u>

Orthopaedic Defects

The foregoing Table shows the work done in the Clinics and in Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital, Alton. The number of children on the books of the Clinics is seen to have increased to 737, congenital deformities increasing by 25 and acquired deformities by 74, paralysis by 5 and other defects by 12.

MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSINGI. MIDWIFERY

During the year 1951 Hampshire County Council Midwives and District Nurse Midwives attended as midwives 3090 (3,499) cases, and as maternity nurses 370 (544) cases.

Independent midwives attended in the patients' home 13 (37) women as midwifery cases and 24 (56) as maternity cases.

The total number of calls for medical help issued by midwives was 1039 (1,164).

All midwives in active domiciliary practice - 143 - were qualified at the end of the year to administer Gas/Air Analgesia.

The number of cases in which Gas/Air was administered was 2,293 (2,581) when acting as midwives, 221 (206) when acting as maternity nurses.

Sterilised Maternity Outfits were supplied to 3,595 (4,008) patients.

The numbers in brackets relate to 1950.

Lectures to Midwives

During the year seven lectures were given in Winchester, the speakers and subjects being as follows:-

<u>Lecturer</u>	<u>Subject</u>
Dr. D.A.J. Williamson ...	The Premature Baby.
Mr. P. Mitchell ...	Obstetric Shock: why it occurs and treatment in the patient's home.
Miss A. Carroll, ... (County Children's Officer)	Co-operation with Children's Department in relation to Children's Act, 1948.
Dr. H.M. Price Hunt ...	Relaxation Exercises.
Miss McCormack ...	Diabetes in relation to pregnancy
Dr. A. Melvin Ramsay ...	Puerperal Sepsis.
Professor F.J. Browne ...	Toxaemia of Pregnancy.

The attendances at the lectures varied from 30 to 52.

During the year twelve midwives attended one week Post-Graduate courses under the auspices of the Royal College of Midwives.

One of the Assistant Nursing Superintendents attended a Nursing Administrators' Course at Roffey Park, and the Supervisor and an Assistant Supervisor of Midwives had a week's refresher course arranged by the Association of Supervisors of Midwives.

Part 2 - Midwifery Training Scheme

35 pupil midwives received three months' district training from 12 County Midwives approved by the Central Midwives' Board for this purpose.

General District Training

Ten student District Nurses completed district training during the year under the auspices of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, including four of the County staff who were seconded for four months' training.

Study Day for General Nurses

A most successful Study Day was held on the 29th October at The Castle, Winchester, when under the chairmanship of the Lady Doris Blacker, some seventy nurses heard lectures by :-

Mr. C.G. Cartwright on The County Health Service.
 Dr. Kenneth Robertson on New Advances in Medicine.
 Dr. Trevor Howell on The Care of the Aged and Chronic Sick.

II. HOME NURSING AND MIDWIFERY

The number of nurses and midwives employed on 31st December, 1951, was : Midwives - 30; General Nurses - 32, which includes two part-time nurses; District Nurse/Midwives - 113, which includes one who devotes a small portion of her time to Health Visiting duties.

No. of Queen's Nurses	...	...	...	72
No. of District Nurse/Midwives (S.R.N., S.C.M.)	...	...	...	43
No. of Assistant Nurse Midwives (S.C.M.)	...	...	...	50
No. of General Nurses (S.R.N.)	...	...	...	6
No. of Assistant Nurses (S.E.A.N.)	...	...	...	4
Total				175

Resignations were received from 16 nurses and midwives. Of these, 3 were for marriage, 3 retirement, 4 home ties, and 6 other work.* Eighteen new appointments were made, 11 of them Queen's Nurse Midwives (of whom 8 were County candidates), 4 Queen's Nurses (General), 1 District Midwife, 2 District Nurse Midwives.

* One Queen's Nurse Midwife died after an illness for which she was off duty for three months.

The work carried out was as follows :-

Total Cases	Midwifery	Maternity	General
1950	3353	730	16534
1951	3090	646 x	17150

Total Visits	Midwifery & Maternity	General	Ante-Natal & Post-Natal
1950	76805	269748	56773
1951	70739	273372	36426

x Includes 276 miscarriages.

RE-GROUPING AND DEVELOPMENT WORK

The fall in the domiciliary birth rate, and increase in general nursing, has necessitated further adjustments, and taking the County as a whole, it is estimated that two thirds of the time of the staff is occupied in general nursing, and one third in midwifery.

In accordance with the policy of the Health Committee that generalised duties (combining Health Visiting, School Nursing, Midwifery and General Nursing) should be undertaken as opportunity occurs in rural areas, by suitable qualified nurses, a Queen's Nurse Midwife with Health Visitor Certificate was appointed to Fordingbridge, replacing a nurse midwife, and freeing a whole-time Health Visitor from a proportion of her rural duties for urgent work in an urban area. One nurse midwife was seconded to take the Health Visitor training in Southampton University, with a view to appointment as a generalised nurse in a rural area in 1952.

Housing provided for Nurses

Thanks to the co-operation of the Housing Authorities, 13 council houses were provided for the use of nurses and midwives during the year.

Transport for Nurses and Midwives

At the 31st December, 1951, 136 County cars were in use :-

- 122 by nurses and midwives
- 2 by Superintendents
- 12 as spare cars used by emergency nurses and when cars are being repaired.

29 nurses and midwives, and 2 Superintendents used their own cars and received official allowances.

Joint National Cancer Survey

A Committee of the Marie Curie Memorial Fund and Queen's Institute of District Nursing requested the co-operation of Medical Officers of Health throughout the country in a National Survey of Cancer patients for a period of three months, February 1st to April 30th, 1951.

Questionnaires were sent to all nurses engaged in general nursing, and as a result 82 were completed in respect of patients nursed by them. The questionnaire was designed to procure information as to the incidence and type of cancer cases nursed at home, social conditions, and nursing and welfare needs of the patients, with special reference to the way in which these needs are being met.

The information obtained has now been incorporated in a report published by the Joint National Cancer Survey Committee, who have expressed warm thanks for the co-operation given.

Educational Ante-natal Clinics

Classes for the instruction of expectant mothers in relaxation and exercises were continued by Dr. Price Hunt during 1951 at Brambly's Grange Health Centre, and The Shrubbery Maternity Home, Basingstoke. Midwives in the area have been encouraged to attend these classes, and as a result, a midwives' class was started in Odiham in October. Another

midwives' class is in process at Yateley, and reports indicate that these courses are well attended and appreciated.

All midwives in the Basingstoke area have had opportunities of attending Dr. Hunt's classes, with a view to using this teaching in their own practice. It is hoped to arrange classes in other parts of the County, so that all midwives will have an opportunity of learning the best method of instructing their patients.

Registration of Nursing Homes

During 1951 six private Nursing Homes were closed and two new ones were opened, and at the end of the year there were 52 Nursing Homes functioning, these having 645 beds of which 80 were set apart for maternity cases. The total number of patients admitted to these 52 Nursing Homes during the year was 2,409, of which 514 were maternity cases.

The two new Nursing Homes catered for 15 beds, of which one was for maternity, and during the year 13 patients (1 maternity) were admitted.

There were 33 beds in the six Homes closed, of which 17 were for maternity, and during the year 101 patients (53 maternity) were admitted.

Nurses Act, 1943 - The Nurses Agencies Regulations, 1945

Two licences were issued during the year 1951; one of these was issued to Miss Kite of "Angene", St. Giles Hill Winchester, who, however, employed only one S.E.A.N. nurse during the year. Mrs. S. Abraham of South Pines, Shorefield Crescent, Milford-on-Sea, was only granted a licence at the end of December, 1951.

Nursing Aid

At the request of District Nurses very useful help has been given by members of the nursing divisions of the Order of St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society. The work includes simple duties such as bedmaking, washing and sitting up at night with patients. O.S.J.A.B. members gave 1376 hours to this work, whilst members of the B.R.C.S. paid 1643 visits.

HOME HELP SERVICE

The number of cases assisted during the year ended the 31st December, 1951, is as follows :-

Type of Case	Div.1	Div.2	Div.3	Div.4	Div.5	Total
Maternity	181	94	100	73	30	478
General Sickness...	152	94	45	57	34	382
Chronic Sickness...	43	43	37	71	33	227
Aged and Infirm ...	89	104	72	91	27	383
Post Hospital ...	61	38	19	26	7	151
Tuberculosis ...	10	14	10	7	4	45
Child Care ...	12	10	2	4	5	33
Other Cases ...	5	3	1	1	-	10
TOTALS ...	553	400	286	330	140	1709

These figures show that 26 fewer cases have been assisted in 1951 than in 1950. This is chiefly accounted for in the reduction of maternity cases (by 123). There has been an increase in the number of long term cases, e.g. chronic sickness, aged and infirm (by 108) which has resulted in an increase in the average number of cases per week; the number of cases receiving help at the beginning and end of the year (by 65), and the equivalent number of whole-time helps employed (by 66).

The number of Helpers on the register at the end of the year was :-

		<u>Employed</u>	<u>Reserve</u>
Division 1	Aldershot, Farnborough, Basingstoke M.B. and R.D., Hartley Wintney and Fleet, Alton U.D. and R.D., Kingsclere and Whitchurch.	83	35
Division 2	Fareham, Droxford, Havant and Waterloo, Petersfield U.D. Petersfield R.D.	76	2
Division 3	Gosport	62	1
Division 4	Eastleigh, Winchester City Winchester R.D., Andover M.B. Andover R.D., Romsey M.B. and Romsey and Stockbridge R.D.	79	8
Division 5	Christchurch, Lymington, New Forest, Ringwood and Fordingbridge	40	9
		<u>340</u>	<u>55</u>

Of the 340 Helpers, 38 were employed whole-time, 274 part-time, 14 were sick, and the remaining 14 were on holiday.

During the year 1,995 applications were received, only 4 qualifying for assistance were not helped, and in all these cases the applicants lived in a very isolated place where it was not possible to convey Helpers or recruit locally: 635 were withdrawn. Applications received were referred by :-

General Practitioner	...	708
Almoner	...	170
Chest Physician	...	18
District Nurses & Midwives	...	419
Health Visitor	...	26
Children's Officer	...	31
Welfare Officers	...	33
National Assistance Board	...	18
Other Sources	...	572

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following tables summarise the corrected quarterly returns of notifications received during the year.

The incidence per 100,000 population was as follows:-

	Notifications 1950	No. per 100,000	Notifications 1951	No. per 100,000
Scarlet Fever	667	105	432	66
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
Enteric and Paratyphoid	8	1.2	36	5.5
Pneumonia ...	289	46	397	61
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	24	4	90	14
Meningococcal Infection ...	11	1.7	20	3
Acute Polionyelitis	88	14	26	4
Acute Encephalitis	4	0.6	6	0.9
Dysentery ...	19	3	303	46
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	20	3.1	26	4
Erysipelas ...	65	10	59	9
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	439	69	498	76
Other Tuberculosis	117	18	94	14
Malaria ...	1	0.1	4	0.6
Measles ...	1414	223	10879	1670
Whooping Cough	2360	373	2684	412
Food Poisoning	54	8	61	9.3

The following table compares the incidence in 1951 in Rural and Urban Districts with that in 1950 :-

	Rural Districts		Urban Districts		TOTALS	
	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951
Scarlet Fever ...	249	177	418	255	667	432
Diphtheria ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric and Paratyphoid ...	4	25	4	11	8	36
Pneumonia... ..	131	173	158	224	289	397
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	16	21	74	24	90
Meningococcal Infection ...	2	6	9	14	11	20
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	40	8	48	18	88	26
Acute Encephalitis ...	-	3	4	3	4	6
Dysentery ...	7	170	12	133	19	303
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	3	10	17	16	20	26
Erysipelas ...	28	33	37	26	65	59
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	174	186	265	312	439	498
Other Tuberculosis ...	64	57	53	37	117	94
Malaria	-	4	1	-	1	4
Measles	518	4476	896	6403	1414	10879
Whooping Cough ...	940	1178	1420	1506	2360	2684
Food Poisoning ...	20	40	34	21	54	61

Deaths from notifiable infectious diseases during 1951 were as follows :-

Diphtheria	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1
Acute Poliomyelitis and Acute Encephalitis ...	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	140
Other Tuberculosis	23
Measles	3
Whooping Cough	8

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1951 RURAL DISTRICTS

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1951																													
District	Estimated Population for mid. 1950	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria (including membranous croup)	Measles (excluding rubella)	Acute Pneumonia Primary (or influenza)	Meningococcal infection	Acute Poliomyelitis		Acute Encephalitis		Dysentery	Puerperal Pyrexia	Small Pox	Paratyphoid Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Enteric or Typhoid Fever (ex. Paratyphoid)	F.d. Poison'g (ex. Dys. Typhoid and Para. Fvrs)	Erysipelas	Chicken Pox	Malaria			Tb. Respiratory	Tb. Other Forms	Cholera	Plague	Typhus Fever	TOTAL CASES
								Paralytic	Non-Paralytic	Infective	Post-Infectious										Believed to be contracted in this country	Believed to be contracted abroad	Induced in Institutions						
Alton	22,920	16	105	—	387	14	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	7	—	—	20	2	—	—	—	—	9	1	—	—	—	565
Andover	17,590	16	36	—	313	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	18	1	—	—	—	388
Basingstoke	17,270	9	50	—	220	13	—	1	—	—	—	20	—	—	1	1	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	7	2	—	—	—	330
Droxford	20,770	10	66	—	418	6	—	—	—	—	—	83	—	—	5	1	—	17	2	—	—	—	—	12	4	—	—	—	624
Hartley Wintney	23,810	28	71	—	334	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	19	5	—	—	—	470
Kingsclere and Whitechurch	18,640	12	33	—	190	43	1	—	—	—	1	11	1	—	—	2	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	8	8	—	—	—	316
New Forest	44,900	18	230	—	612	12	1	1	—	—	—	28	8	—	—	3	1	3	2	—	—	—	—	41	8	—	—	—	968
Petersfield	23,310	36	159	—	280	19	—	2	—	1	—	1	4	—	7	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	15	7	—	—	—	534	
Ringwood and Fordingbridge	23,970	6	148	—	372	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	11	3	—	—	—	571	
Romsey and Stockbridge	27,090	14	85	—	306	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	18	9	—	—	—	454	
Winchester	44,400	12	195	—	1,044	13	2	4	—	1	—	26	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	3	—	28	9	—	—	1,342
TOTAL	284,670	177	1,178	—	4,476	173	6	8	—	2	1	170	16	—	24	10	1	40	33	—	—	4	—	186	57	—	—	—	6,562

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1951 BOROUGH AND URBAN DISTRICTS

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1951

District	Estimated Population for mid. 1950	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria (including membranous croup)	Measles (excluding rubella)	Acute Pneumonia Primary (or influenzal)	Meningococcal infection	Acute Polio- myelitis		Acute Enceph- alitis		Dysentery	Puerperal Pyrexia	Small Pox	Paratyphoid Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Enteric or Typhoid Fever (ex. Paratyphoid)	Ptd. Poisoning (ex. Dys. Typhoid and Para. Dys.)	Erysipelas	Chicken Pox	Malaria			Tb. Respiratory	Tb. Other Forms	Cholera	Plague	Typhus Fever	TOTAL CASES
								Paralytic	Non- Paralytic	Infective	Post- Infectious										Believed to be contracted in this country	Believed to be contracted abroad	Induced in Institutions						
Aldershot ..	..	29	84	—	575	3	5	3	3	1	—	1	15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	29	2	—	—	—	—	751
Alton ..	..	4	29	—	161	12	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	7	1	—	—	—	—	219
Andover ..	..	4	123	—	241	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	21	2	—	—	—	—	396
Basingstoke ..	..	6	91	—	230	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	1	2	—	—	—	20	1	—	—	—	—	359
Christchurch ..	..	7	118	—	265	13	3	—	—	2	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	425
Eastleigh ..	..	43	179	—	826	14	1	—	—	—	—	25	3	—	3	1	—	2	5	—	—	—	27	—	—	—	—	—	1,129
Fareham ..	..	47	124	—	742	23	—	—	—	—	—	24	7	—	1	1	—	7	—	—	—	—	33	5	—	—	—	—	1,014
Farnborough ..	..	13	205	—	601	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	38	4	—	—	—	—	872
Fleet ..	..	5	63	—	114	44	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	235
Gosport ..	..	35	215	—	1,579	55	3	3	—	—	—	10	16	—	—	5	—	1	6	—	—	—	66	7	—	—	—	—	2,001
Havant and Waterloo ..	..	26	74	—	261	18	1	2	—	—	—	43	7	—	—	2	—	5	—	—	—	—	19	4	—	—	—	—	462
Lymington ..	..	10	74	—	103	13	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	18	2	—	—	—	—	229
Petersfield ..	..	9	20	—	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	46
Romsey ..	..	2	—	—	228	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	4	—	—	—	—	—	241
Winchester ..	..	15	107	—	471	22	1	1	1	—	—	19	17	—	—	3	—	3	1	—	—	—	9	4	—	—	—	—	674
TOTAL URBAN ..	..	255	1,506	—	6,403	224	14	12	6	3	—	133	74	—	10	16	1	21	26	—	—	—	312	37	—	—	—	—	9,053
TOTAL RURAL ..	..	177	1,178	—	4,476	173	6	8	—	2	1	170	16	—	24	10	1	40	33	—	—	—	186	57	—	—	—	—	6,562
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY	..	432	2,684	—	10,879	397	20	20	6	5	1	303	90	—	34	26	2	61	59	—	—	—	498	94	—	—	—	—	15,615

Diphtheria Prophylaxis : Publicity Campaign

In response to the Ministry of Health appeal to make an "all out" effort to secure the immunisation of children particularly under the age of twelve months, I approached all District Councils and asked if they would consider what steps could be taken to conduct a propaganda campaign in the area by making use of material such as newspaper advertisements, cinema slides, display posters, etc. offered by the Central Office of Information of the Central Council for Health Education. I am glad to say that much use was made of these facilities particularly the press advertisements. Cinema slides were shown in eleven districts and all areas made much use of the distribution of leaflets to parents. Health Visitors also did much to make known the facilities available for the immunisation of children.

During the year considerable activity was shown by the District Councils in getting children attending school protected further against Diphtheria by giving reinforcing or "booster" doses. 11,988 children were dealt with as compared with 5,973 in the previous year.

Percentage of Children Immunised in the County Area at December 31st :-

	Urban			Rural			County		
	1949	1950	1951	1949	1950	1951	1949	1950	1951
Age Group (-5	53.2	53.6	54.1	62.7	61.6	55.6	57.1	57.0	54.7
(5-15	73.4	67.6	68.8	73.4	69.0	65.2	73.4	68.3	67.1
Both Groups	63.3	62.1	63.0	68.0	66.3	61.5	67.1	63.9	62.3

Smallpox - Vaccinations

No cases occurred in 1951 in this County. The following is a statement of vaccinations carried out during 1951 :

	Under 1	1-2	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Total
No. Vaccinated	5238	243	535	770	1183	7969
No. Re-Vaccinated	41	16	262	1039	3822	5180
Grand Total						13149

Enteric and Paratyphoid

The number of cases notified during 1951, 36, was considerably greater than in 1950; 4 were of enteric and the remainder of paratyphoid B, distributed among the County Districts as follows :-

Aldershot M.B. ...	1	Farnborough U.D. ...	1
Alton R.D. ...	3	Lymington M.B. ...	2
Basingstoke R.D. ...	1	New Forest R.D. ...	1
Droxford R.D. ...	5	Petersfield R.D. ...	7
Eastleigh M.B. ...	3	Petersfield U.D. ...	3
Fareham U.D. ...	1	Romsey & Stockbridge R.D. ...	4

A number of these cases, the majority of which occurred in August, September and October, viz. 24, were connected with the same source which was probably confectionery.

The increase in the notification of these diseases was not confined to this County since over the whole country there was an increase from 1950 with 654 cases to 1438 in 1951. This County also shared in a country-wide increase in pneumonia and dysentery, whooping cough and measles.

Influenza

With regard to influenza, the incidence in Hampshire was not so great or of such a severe type as elsewhere, the chief fatalities being amongst the elderly.

Acute Poliomyelitis

There was a distinct falling off in the number of cases of acute poliomyelitis which again was the experience elsewhere.

Food Poisoning

No large outbreaks of food poisoning occurred.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

Twenty-six cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified in 1951. In one case the vision was slightly impaired, the left eye having a slight squint and the right eye being normal.

TUBERCULOSIS

Death Rates

The death rate from pulmonary tuberculosis was 0.18 compared with the 1950 figure of 0.25. The death rate from non-pulmonary tuberculosis remains the same as in 1950, namely 0.03.

The total deaths from tuberculosis (pulmonary 116 non-pulmonary 18 = 134) are distributed as follows:-

Age Groups	Urban				Rural				Total					
	Pulm.		N.Pul.		Pulm.		N.Pul.		Pulm.		N.Pul.		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	2	2	-	-	-	2	1	-	2	4	1	4	3
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
15	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	1	-	3	1
25	7	14	2	1	12	5	1	1	19	19	3	2	22	21
45	28	8	-	-	15	3	3	2	43	11	3	2	46	13
65	8	1	-	-	4	1	-	1	12	2	-	1	12	3
75	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	4	1
	48	27	4	1	32	9	7	6	80	36	11	7	91	43

Summary of Pulmonary Tuberculosis deaths :-

Age Group	Number of Deaths Male	Number of Deaths Female
Under 14	0	2
15-44	21	20
45-64	43	11
65	16	3
	80	36

Notifications

Age Groups	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
0	-	-	-	-	-
1	2	2	2	1	7
5	9	14	18	15	56
15	19	30	12	12	73
25	103	98	4	16	221
45	109	50	8	3	170
65	44	14	1	2	61
75	2	2	-	-	4
	288	210	45	49	592

The above figures represent an incidence per 100,000 population of Pulmonary 76.45, Non-Pulmonary 14.43 which compares with 69 and 18 for 1950.

The increase in the incidence undoubtedly is due, at least partly, to better ascertainment; there are still many cases undetected in spite of all efforts.

Chest Clinics

Information on the Chest Clinics, which has been kindly supplied by Dr. A. Capes, Administrative Chest Physician Western Area Committee, is set out in the table facing this page.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

During the year Units operated in the County as follows :-

Bournemouth Unit	...	February and March - New Milton, Ringwood and Fordingbridge. June - Brockenhurst
Portsmouth Unit	...	May - Gosport. July - Fareham.
Southampton Unit	...	February - Eastleigh; March - Hamble; May - Andover; and Winchester; June and July - Basingstoke; September - Alton; October - Romsey.
Worcester Park Unit...		March - Farnborough, Royal Aeronautical Establishment.

The information available is still not as complete as was hoped, but is interesting.

Unit	No.		No. considered		No. per		Percentage
	Examined		to have active		1000		of Adult
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	population
Bournemouth	Christchurch	and District					
	2077	2743	13 ^x	17 ^x	5.8 ^x	4.0 ^x	14
Southampton	Eastleigh						
	3456	1562	6	1	1.8	0.6	21
	Andover						
	1334	1429	3	3	2.2	2.1	24
	Winchester						
	2440	2797	2	3	0.8	1.1	24
	Basingstoke						
	1632	1409	3	4	1.8	2.8	23
Worcester	Farnborough						
Park	1067	1698	2	3	1.9	1.8	
	R.A.E.						
	3556	654	6	5	1.4	7.7	

^x These are cases referred to the Chest Clinic as possibly tuberculous but no information is available as to those considered to be active.

Hampshire County Chest Clinics

						Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Totals			Grand Totals
						M.	W.	Ch.	M.	W.	Ch.	M.	W.	Ch.	
A. (1) No. of notified cases of TB on clinic registers on 1st January ...						1473	920	111	149	131	218	1622	1051	329	3002
(2) Transfers from clinics under other H.M.Cs or B.Gs during the year ...						131	99	23	1	8	14	132	107	37	276
(3) Cases lost sight of which returned to clinic during the year ...						16	10	-	3	2	1	19	12	1	32
B. No. of <u>new cases</u> diagnosed as TB during the year						147	111	23	12	23	38	159	134	61	354
Tb MINUS						95	65	-	4	4	4	99	69	4	172
Tb PLUS															
TOTALS OF A & B plus E.1 ...						1866	1216	171	169	169	277	2035	1385	448	3868
C. No. of cases in A & B written off clinic registers during the year :-						35	32	-	7	9	11	42	41	11	94
(1) Recovered ...						60	28	3	6	2	3	66	30	6	102
(2) Died (all causes) ...						119	81	9	5	8	8	124	89	17	230
(3) Removed to other H.M.C. or B.G. Clinics ...						46	22	6	7	10	12	53	32	18	103
(4) Other reasons ...															
TOTALS OF C ...						260	163	18	25	29	34	285	192	52	529
D. (1) No. of notified cases of Tb on clinic registers on 31st December ...						1610	1056	146	152	153	222	1762	1209	368	3339
(2) Number of above known to have had positive sputum within preceding six months ...						164	81	-	-	-	-	164	81	-	245
E. No. of CONTACTS first examined during the year:-						2	9	14	-	1	2	2	10	16	28
(1) Diagnosed as tuberculosis						2	2	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	4
Tb. MINUS						-	-	-	-	-	-	162	416	731	1309
(2) Not tuberculous						-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	7	16
(3) Not determined at 31st December															
F. NO. OF PATIENTS ON CLINIC REGISTERS AWAITING ADMISSION TO Tb. INSTITUTION ...						23	35	4	3	-	-	26	35	4	65

NOTE: "Children" means persons under the age of 15. When a case, first diagnosed and placed on the register as a child, reaches 15, it should be transferred to the adult register but should not be counted as a new case for the purpose of B. above.

Shelters, Beds and Bedding

During the year 32 patients were supplied with shelters, beds and bedding at the request of Chest Physicians, and no applications were refused. One patient was supplied with a shelter only, 24 were supplied with bedding only, and the remaining 7 received shelter and bedding. Articles of bedding supplied consisted of 22 beds, 77 blankets, 26 mattresses, 42 pillows, 86 pillow cases and 105 sheets. (One patient, a school teacher, was also loaned two books on technical subjects).

Extra Nourishment

Chest Physicians recommended 13 patients for Extra Nourishment, all for milk except one which was for eggs and milk. Of these three cases were accepted and ten refused. Of the cases refused five were in receipt of incomes in excess of the County Scale, four were in receipt of National Assistance at the Special rate and also exceeded the scale, and in one case the patient failed to return the assessment form and nothing more was heard from him. Ten cases were in receipt of extra nourishment at the end of the year.

MOUNT INDUSTRIES

Staff

At the end of the year staff at the Industry numbered 24: Administrative 3, Woodworking 17 (plus 8 patient trainees), Painting 4.

Sales and Production

The falling off in sales reported last year continued and much more furniture, etc. is now being produced. Considerable efforts have been made to extend the scope of the work and this is already showing results. Work is being carried out for Hospital Group Management Committees.

It has not yet been possible to extend the workshops.

Advertising - Displays

During the year many displays were arranged, including special displays at Sunderland, Newcastle, Maidstone, London and Winchester.

VENEREAL DISEASES

TABLE I

Number of cases resident in the County Area (both sexes) who attended Clinics for the first time during the years stated:-

Year	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Syphilis ...	141	112	86	90	77
Gonorrhoea ...	215	164	115	79	64
Non-V.D. ...	575	687	566	543	597

From the following table, showing the incidence of new cases of syphilis and gonorrhoea per 100,000 of the population, it is seen that the incidence continues to fall:

1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
64	48	35	27	21

TABLE II

Number of first attendances made at all Clinics serving Hampshire :

Year	Male					Female				
	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Primary Syphilis	212	119	63	28	19	59	35	19	4	6
Secondary Syphilis	65	69	30	16	6	102	57	26	23	11
Other	86	97	92	99	88	116	104	104	86	76
Congenital	35	13	21	17	17	33	30	18	31	26
Gonorrhoea	1029	819	564	412	360	236	175	138	117	85

Table I refers to patients attending the following Clinics: Aldershot, Bournemouth, Guildford, Portsmouth, Reading Salisbury, Southampton and Winchester.

The number of first attendances mentioned in Table II refers to all cases attending the Clinics mentioned and include cases from other areas, (c.g. the County Boroughs). It is reproduced here to show the general trend in the area of first attendances for early and later manifestations of disease.

General Practitioner Service

Facilities still exist whereby patients can be treated by specially approved General Medical Practitioners practising in places remotely situated from Special Clinics. Again little use was made of this service during the year; only 3 cases of syphilis (2 male, 1 female) having been dealt with under this arrangement.

COUNTY AMBULANCE SERVICE

The strength and work of the County Ambulance Service and Hospital Car Service is summarised in the following table:-

Ambulance Service (including stations provided by
Order of St. John Ambulance Brigade
and British Red Cross Society)

		<u>1951</u>		<u>1950</u>	
Ambulances		48	(Dec)	49	(Dec)
Sitting Case Cars		6	"	6	"
Whole-time drivers		62	"	65	"
Part-time drivers		49	"	42	"
Patient journeys		46,596		46,969	
Mileage		755,799		797,871	

Hospital Car Service

Patient journeys	69,977	49,096
Mileage	1,049,386	1,020,156

The increase in the number of patient journeys shown as made by the Hospital Car Service is partly fictitious, resulting from the Ministry's decision that as from October each journey made by a patient to or from hospital should count as a separate journey; it is however partly a real increase due to the Committee's decision in November to transfer as much sitting-case work as possible to the Hospital Car Service. The number of ambulance journeys is also swelled by the new method of computation, though to a less extent than in the case of the Hospital Car Service: the number of calls reached a peak in August and thereafter fell steadily. Hospital out-patient work remains the main work of the Service.

The use of rail transport has been continued for patients travelling long distances and 230 patients travelled approximately 22,000 miles during the year. The success of this means of transport is due to the continued help and co-operation of the staff of the British Railways and members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and British Red Cross Society who have provided voluntary attendants.

Organisation

The experiment carried out in the North Eastern area of the County during 1950 proved very successful and it was agreed that a scheme of re-organisation of the service on the same lines be submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval. This was as follows :

The County to be divided into four ambulance areas with main stations at Aldershot, Farnham, Winchester and Lymington, with a number of ambulance sub-stations attached to each of the main stations.

<u>N.E. AREA</u>		Wholetime Driver/ Attendants	<u>Ambulances</u>	<u>Cars</u>
Aldershot	- Main Station	9	4	1
Farnborough	- Sub-Station	2	2	-
Basingstoke	- " "	3	2	-
Alton	- " "	2	2	-
Hartley				
Wintney	- " "	1	1	-
		17	11	1
<u>CENTRAL AREA</u>				
Winchester	- Main Station	10	5	1
Eastleigh	- Sub-Station	3	2	1
Andover	- " "	2	2	-
Broughton	- " "	1	1	-
Whitchurch	- " "	-	1	-
Romsey	- " "	-	1	-
		16	12	2
<u>S.E. AREA</u>				
Fareham	- Main Station	10	4	1
Havant	- Sub-Station	5	2	1
Gosport	- " "	4	3	-
Petersfield	- " "	2	2	-
Hedge End	- " "	2	1	-
		23	12	2
<u>S.W. AREA</u>				
Lymington	- Main Station	9	4	1
Christchurch	- Sub-Station	4	2	-
Totton	- " "	3	2	-
Ringwood	- " "	2	1	-
Fawley	- " "	1	1	-
		19	10	1
TOTAL ...		75	45	6

The re-organised scheme, with the exception of Basingstoke, has been in operation in the North Eastern area since August, 1950, and in October, 1951, Basingstoke was included. It has also been operating in the South Eastern area since May, 1951. The Central area will be re-organised about the middle of 1952 and the South Western area about the end of 1952.

Vehicles

Three new ambulances were delivered during the year and a further 16 have been ordered to replace outworn vehicles and to equip the stations at present provided by the St. John and British Red Cross organisations. All are Bedford Lever ambulances. A Bedford "Utilecon" has also been ordered to replace an outworn sitting-case car: the "Utilecon" is a five-seater sitting-case car capable of quick conversion to take a stretcher.

Premises

No new stations were built or major improvements carried out during the year, though a decision was reached to build a new station at Gosport and to convert premises at Lymington.

Staff

The number of whole-time staff has been kept to the minimum necessary to give reasonable assurance of providing an attendant when required. Members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society have continued to act as voluntary attendants on County ambulances in many parts of the County. Every effort has been made to encourage more to do this work.

Excellent liaison with the Order of St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society has been maintained and these organisations continue to run their ambulances as part of the County Service although it is likely that by the end of 1952 the Service will be run entirely by the County Council.

The continued help given by the County Police and Fire Service in accepting calls when the ambulance stations are left unmanned has greatly assisted the service.

Hospital Car Service

The Hospital Car Service organised by Mrs. Larminie has continued to play an extremely useful part in the service by transporting patients to and from Clinics, Hospitals and Convalescent Homes.

HEALTH CONTROL OF AIRPORTS

Blackbushe Airport

In previous reports I have detailed the Health Control Unit arrangements at this airport, for which the County Council, at the request of the Ministry of Health, assumed responsibility in May 1947. The work of the three medical receptionists was taken over by members of the staff of the Customs Office during 1950. No change has occurred during 1951, the airport being mainly used by charter planes.

PREVENTION, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

Section 28 - National Health Service Act, 1946 - Holiday Homes

During 1951, 55 (27) Adults and 35 (28) Children under school age were admitted to Holiday Homes for which the County Council was responsible for their maintenance. In the majority of cases small contributions were received from the patient, or in the case of children under school age, from the parent.

Note: Numbers in brackets relate to previous year.

Medical Comforts and Loan Depots

The medical comfort and loan depots established by the Order of St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society continued, additional depots being established to ensure that, as far as possible, the County area is covered. During the year 1951, 28 medical comfort depots were run by the O.S.J.A.B., 1411 articles being issued. The B.R.C.S. has 94 medical loan depots, 6663 articles being issued during the year.

Care and After-Care Committees

I am particularly pleased to report that during the year, mainly due to the personal efforts of the Lady Manners, a Voluntary Tuberculosis Care Committee was established for Christchurch, Lynington and District. The work of the Committee, apart from being extremely successful in giving help to patients and their families, has resulted in the formation of further care committees being considered and to date two Committees, New Forest, Totton and District, and Eastleigh District, are working, the establishment of others being well in hand.

HEALTH CENTRES

Work on the selection of sites for health centres under Section 21 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, was considerably advanced during the year and it was possible to include in the development plans prepared by the County Planning Officer many of the sites selected. The present position is that sites for main or sub-centres have been selected as follows :-

<u>District</u>				<u>Main Centres</u>	<u>Sub-Centres</u>
Aldershot ...	...	...	...	1	-
Alton ...	...	...	...	1 x	-
Andover ...	...	...	...	1	-
Basingstoke ...	...	...	...	1	-
Christchurch ...	...	...	...	1	3 x
Eastleigh ...	...	...	...	1	2
Fareham ...	...	...	...	1	1
Farnborough ...	...	...	...	1	1
Fleet ...	...	...	...	1 x	-
Gosport ...	...	...	...	1	1 ø
Havant & Waterloo		...	...	x	x
Lymington ...	...	...	...	1	1
Petersfield ...	...	...	...	1	-
Romsey ...	...	...	...	1	-
Winchester City ...	...	...	...	1	2
New Forest R.D. - Totton				1	-
- Hythe ...				-	1

x Denotes final decision not reached

ø Denotes decision pending regarding second site for sub-centre.

During the year the Central Health Services Council produced a report on health centres and the Health Centre Sites Sub-Committee considered the recommendations of the Council in making their final decisions.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Administration

The Mental Health Services under Sections 28 and 51 of the National Health Service Act are administered on behalf of the Local Health Authority by the Mental Health Sub-Committee of the Health Committee, to whom is referred the detailed administration of the Mental Health Services.

The Sub-Committee, which meets two-monthly, consists of fifteen members of the Health Committee and five co-opted members.

Staff

My report of 1948 dealt fully with staff, but as considerable alterations have recently been made, the revised staff arrangements are set out in some detail.

(a) Medical Staff:

County Medical Officer (5% of time)
Deputy County Medical Officer (5% of time)
Half-time Senior Medical Officer for Mental Health
(100% of time)

The Senior Assistant County Medical Officer has continued to be responsible to the County Medical Officer for the Mental Health Services. He is assisted by part-time services of those Assistant County Medical Officers who are approved Medical Officers under the Education Act, and by Medical Practitioners for petition work. The whole-time officers of the Regional Hospital Board have continued to be available for consultation under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

(b) Non-Medical Professional Staff:

One Senior Mental Health Social Worker and
Chief Petitioning Officer (female)
One Deputy Petitioning Officer and Mental Health S.W.
One Social Worker (female) (female)
Equivalent of two Area Duty Authorised Officers
distributed among eight Area Welfare
Officers (two female, six male)
In addition the services of a variable number
(77 at the end of the year) of female and male
Voluntary Visitors, members of the Hampshire
Voluntary Association for Mental Welfare, are
also utilised to an extent governed by the time
the volunteer can give to the work and the area
he or she can cover.

The Chief Petitioning Officer retired during the year and it was considered desirable to combine her duties with those of the Senior Mental Health Social Worker. A Deputy Petitioning Officer, acting also as Mental Health Social Worker, was appointed.

Occupation Centre Staff:

There are four Supervisors, four Assistant Supervisors, one Assistant, and three cook-helpers. The Mental Health Social Worker, who also acts as Deputy Petitioning Officer, supervises the Occupation Centre training.

Clerical Staff:

Senior Clerk (grade Higher Clerical)
Two Clerk-shorthand-typists (grade General Division)

Co-ordination with Regional Hospital Boards

The Medical Officers of the hospitals for the mentally defective and for the mentally ill, act as consultants when necessary. Cases are referred to the Out-Patient Clinics established throughout the County, as mentioned in the account given of work undertaken in the community.

The supervision of patients on licence from the hospitals for mental defectives within the County is undertaken by the Coldeast and Tatchbury Mount Group Hospital Management Committee's Social Worker; cases on licence in the County from hospitals outside the County are supervised, by arrangement, by Officers of this Authority who are also available for any other enquiries on behalf of the Committee concerned. The medical certificates and reports required when the Orders are to be renewed are provided as requested by the staff of the Health Department. Patients on trial from, or out-patients attending, the mental hospitals are supervised by the social worker of the hospital who already knows the patient and is in a better position to be of help than the staff of the Health Department.

Similarly, the after-care of ex-service personnel has been undertaken by the officers of the Hospital Management Committee of the appropriate mental hospital. Soldiers discharged from the Army on psychiatric grounds are visited by an Area Welfare Officer who can refer cases if necessary to a psychiatrist.

Duties Delegated to Voluntary Associations

No duties have been delegated to Voluntary Associations but the services of visitors of the Hampshire Voluntary Association for Mental Welfare are used in connexion with the periodical visiting of mental defectives. A grant is made to the Association; the secretarial duties are undertaken by the senior clerk. The Brighton Guardianship Society has been helpful in finding suitable guardians and at present there are 8 cases so placed. The services of the National Association for Mental Health have been used on occasion in securing holidays and in advising on general matters.

ACCOUNT OF WORK UNDERTAKEN IN THE COMMUNITY

I. Under Section 28, National Health Service Act, 1946. Prevention, Care and After-Care.

An account was given in my report for 1950 of alterations made in the original scheme. Experience has shown that the work performed by the Area Welfare Officers under the scheme has been so closely linked with their general work as Area Welfare Officers that, both from the practical and statistical aspects, the cases referred for help under the scheme can be looked upon as cases which should normally come within the scope of their general work directed as it is to the prevention of all physical and mental breakdown. It was therefore decided to abandon the statistical return as from March and to dovetail the scheme in with their general duties. The work includes assistance in dealing with employment, marital, domestic and housing problems, the solution of which is without doubt conducive to the prevention of mental illness.

II. Under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890-1930 by Duly Authorised Officers

The eight Area Welfare Officers augmented in emergency by the two Headquarter's Officers who are also designated as reserve "Authorised Officers", carried out the work set out in the table below. With the alterations referred to under "Staff" it is considered that the time of the Area Welfare Officers apportioned to duties as Duly Authorised Officers is, on the average, 24 per cent.

As Duly Authorised Officers their work includes:

1. Obtaining Orders for, and removal of, certified cases to mental hospitals under Lunacy Acts.
2. Removal of uncertified cases to other hospitals for "observation" under 3-day Orders under Lunacy Act, 1890, Section 20.
3. Assisting in admission of voluntary or of temporary patients to mental hospitals, under the Mental Treatment Act, 1930.

Each officer is primarily responsible for a particular area of the County; special arrangements are made, however, for holiday periods and week-ends.

Considerable difficulty is experienced from time to time in obtaining admission to mental hospitals. Duly Authorised Officers have commented on the tendency for many old people, at the request of relatives and general practitioners, to be admitted to mental hospitals when there is no vacancy in suitable chronic sick accommodation. Many people, as a result of physiological changes in later life, show minor degrees of abnormality in behaviour, poor memory, lack of attention to personal detail and untidiness of the home. They require only supervision and kindly care. Some form of special accommodation for a period of observation is needed for these people without the necessity for certification.

Action taken during 1951 under the above Acts by Duly Authorised Officers was as follows :-

Patients admitted to Mental Hospitals:

Under Section 11 of the Lunacy Act	...	...	36	
Under Sections 14, 15 and 16 of the Lunacy Act			287	
Under Section 20 of the Lunacy Act	...	...	<u>112</u>	435
Under Section 1 of the Mental Treatment Act			190	
Under Section 5 of the Mental Treatment Act			<u>23</u>	<u>213</u>
				<u>648</u>

III. Under Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913 - 1938

(1) Ascertainment, including number of defectives awaiting vacancies in institutions at the end of the year

As regards ascertainment, the two chief sources of referral are the Education Authority (in regard to children aged 2 to 16), and the Health Visiting Service (in connection with children under the age of 2), but some cases have been referred for ascertainment by relatives, general medical practitioners, employers and employment agencies, hospitals,

voluntary societies, etc. All ascertainment, except for a few cases ascertained by the Regional Hospital Board's Consultants, has been carried out by the medical staff of the Department. All the medical officers approved by the Ministry of Education for the ascertainment of educationally subnormal children have also been designated by the Health Committee as Certifying Officers under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

Seventy-two new cases of mental deficiency within the meaning of the Mental Deficiency Acts have been ascertained in the year. Of these, 7 were provided with institutional care and/or training, and 27 were placed under supervision. The remaining 38, although found mentally deficient, were not at present considered "Subject to be dealt with", and are visited not less often than annually.

At the end of the year, the total of 802 mental defectives outside Institutions included 73 awaiting admission to a training institution, 439 under supervision only, 40 under guardianship, and 250 under voluntary supervision.

The two Hampshire colonies now have to serve a wider area within the Region; on the other hand, the catchment area for the Mental Deficiency Institutions of the South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board has been revised, the new arrangements for allocation of beds for Hampshire cases being as follows :-

	Total Accommodation	Basis of Admission	
Botleys Park Group	1465	West Surrey	3 cases
		Hampshire	2 cases
		Portsmouth	1 case
Coldeast Group	1165	Hampshire	4 cases
		Dorset	4 cases
Coldeast Hospital	635	Southampton	3 cases
Tatchbury Mount Hospital	358	Bournemouth	2 cases
Titchborne Down House	110	Isle of	Occasional
Coldharbour Hospital	62	Wight	vacancy
		Wilts	1 case

The number of visits by Social Workers during the year was about the average of quarterly visiting in the case of guardianship cases. This work has been undertaken by a Headquarter's Social Worker. Visiting of the supervision cases could be considered satisfactory as the total number of visits during the year was that needed if every defective under supervision were visited once a quarter only.

(2) Occupation and Training outside the home or Institution County Council Occupation Centres

Under Section 7(2)(i) of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1927, the Local Authority has a duty to provide suitable work or occupation for defectives who are under supervision or guardianship or who have been sent to a Certified Institution.

The four County Council Occupation Centres at Aldershot, Christchurch, Gosport and Winchester continued to function throughout the year. Towards the close of it,

consideration was being given to a fifth at Basingstoke. In addition, a number of pupils attend out-County Centres at Southampton (8), Portsmouth (3), Salisbury (2) and Coldeast (6). Attendance is not compulsory but one of the Social Worker's main duties is to encourage a parent to allow the defective to attend.

The following table shows the increase since 1948 in the number of trainees daily attending the Occupation Centres:

	Oct. 1948		Oct. 1949		Oct. 1950		Oct. 1951	
	No. on Roll	Av. Attnee	No. on Roll	Av. Attnee	No. on Roll	Av. Attnee	No. on Roll	Av. Attnee
Aldershot	14	9.3	17	14	23	19.3	29	22.5
Christchurch	9	5.3	12	11	22	12.5	20	15.7
Gosport	13	8.6	19	17.1	24	17.6	27	22.4
Winchester	-	-	18	13.4	35	24.9	43	32.9
TOTALS ...	36	23.2	66	55.5	104	74.3	119	93.5

There is little doubt that transport difficulties provide the greatest obstacle to increased attendance. The existing Centres serve wide areas and surrounding towns have as yet little provision, e.g. Andover, Petersfield and Romsey. Towards the end of the year arrangements were made for a private conveyance to take a group of defectives in the Eastleigh area to the Winchester Occupation Centre at considerable saving in cost.

It is in the provision of such Centres that the County Council can do what is perhaps its most constructive work in mental deficiency. These "ineducable" children are incapable of learning the school arts but they are still trainable. They are capable of following simple instructions and of forming simple habits. An important duty of those responsible for their training is to help them to develop personal hygiene. Their capabilities differ and the variation is reflected in their response to the many subjects of the curriculum. Some respond with interest to music, some prefer craft-work, some delight in rhythmic movement. Some are capable of simple tasks which may be of help to their homes. Some may contribute towards their upkeep.

A close link is maintained between the Centres and the homes. The co-operation of the parent is secured by meeting the Supervisor and by having "Parents Days" when demonstrations of speech, movement and music are given and the children's work is on display. Parties are held at the end of term and at Christmas and are attended by relatives and others. In these ways the interest of the parent can be aroused and ideas inculcated in their minds regarding the domestic training of the child.

The following account has been prepared by the Supervisor of Occupation Centres and gives in some detail a picture of the work, of the shortcomings and of the difficulties which arise :-

"In all the Centres training is given in general hygiene and good personal habits. In three of the Centres the midday meal is cooked in the premises; the older pupils help in the preparation of the vegetables and have simple cooking lessons by watching the cook each day. All the children help with the laying of tables, arranging of flowers, clearing away and washing up.

During the past year, the Centres have concentrated to a great extent on rhythmic work, percussion band and speech training through rhymes and songs. In one Centre, there is a small but enthusiastic team of country dancers. In another, the junior band has made great strides; one little girl made her first efforts at speech when wanting particularly to play a drum. From that beginning, she has learned to say many words quite clearly and can now count up to five with some understanding of that number.

Eleven months ago a little girl started to attend one Centre; she had always been carried about or pushed in a chair and had never stood alone. After seven months she started to stand alone and to take her place in the morning and evening assembly. After eleven months, she was able to get up from a sitting position and to walk unaided and she is struggling hard to join in marching and dancing. The mother is, of course, overjoyed and now brings her each day instead of only three times a week. The tension in the family has been removed and the father, who for years has been difficult and unsympathetic to the mother's problem, is now anxious to know all he can about the work of the Centre and to help.

Another small boy, after two months of restless wandering and whimpering, has now settled down to a happy, purposeful life. He is now building with bricks instead of throwing them all over the room. He now washes the milk bottles and uses the sense training apparatus with interest and concentration.

At one Centre the afternoon period on Friday is given over to games. The older pupils play a very good game of rounders in the hall - without breaking any windows - keeping the rules and fully entering into the fun.

The pupils of the Winchester Centre are taken out for walks whenever possible. They climb the steps on to St. Giles's Hill or walk along by the River Itchen looking for trout or watching the swans. These nature walks have proved invaluable. The pupils are becoming quite observant and are anxious to talk of their experiences while out. The Winchester Centre is also fortunate in that the Council has rented the house adjoining the hall. The house is kept clean by the older girls and the two bright downstairs rooms are used as classrooms giving more space in the hall for physical training and dancing.

Each Centre is fortunate in having a helpful Voluntary Committee who arrange parties and outings and whose members visit the Centre regularly. In three of the Centres, the Parents Association meet each term and take a lively interest in all that goes on. Questions are invited about home training and offers of help given.

Arrangements for transport are piecemeal. The pupils travel into the various Centres from all directions. They use the 'buses or trains. Some are able to travel alone, but where necessary an escort is provided to bring in a group of children. One girl has to walk a mile to the station to catch the train to Christchurch and she is not there by an escort, but she is becoming more confident and before long it would seem that she would be able to do the whole journey unaccompanied. The staff of the various 'bus Companies are most helpful and do much to make the travelling easier. One epileptic man travels regularly to Winchester. He has had attacks on the 'bus but he has attended the next day; the conductors have been most kind.

As the Centres are all held in rented halls, there are, of course, many difficulties. The Supervisors have all the worry of putting everything away each night and getting it out next morning. They have to cope with the difficulties of cold halls and unswept floors, of Youth Clubs, and whist drives and dances, of flower shows and rabbit shows, but in spite of all the difficulties, the work of training these low grade defective pupils goes on quietly and unobtrusively - appreciated by the defectives themselves, but probably appreciated even more by the parents who find in the Supervisor an understanding friend, and in the Centre a happy, helpful environment for their children."

H. LESLIE CRONK,

County Medical Officer.

September, 1952.

